



GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

# The Courier

Providing highlights of the Governing Board meetings for faculty and staff  
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Week of December 10, 2007

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## NEWS FROM THE DECEMBER 11 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

### Bill Garret new president

The Governing Board unanimously elected its 2008 board officers: President **Bill Garrett**, Vice President **Deanna Weeks**, and Clerk **Greg Barr**.



Bill Garrett

New board

President **Garrett** thanked the trustees for their confidence and thanked **Rick Alexander** for his service as President over the past year. Student trustees **Audrey Causton** and **Crystal Bernier-Sudano** added advisory votes in support of all three board officer nominations. "Next year will be an important year," said **Garrett**. He told all those in attendance, "I do sincerely mean it when I say I listen to you and I will continue to do so. Responding to faculty members who spoke during the public presentation segment of the board meeting about negotiations, he said, "I want the people in the audience to know, especially those who spoke tonight that we are listening—I am listening. I appreciate the fact you have come forward with information in a professional manner. That goes a long way with me." To the staff table, I assure you of my willingness to work with you."

### Survey Shows Split on Smoking

Director of Risk Management **Bob Eygenhuysen** reported results of the Districtwide survey on the current smoking policy. The results split evenly between continuing to provide designated smoking areas and making all District property smoke free.

Chancellor **Omero Suarez** said he feels confident District Executive Council (DEC) will come up with a recommendation. He urged people who have strong views to express them to their DEC representatives. "Provide as much information as you can to them so they can represent you well," said **Suarez**.

ASGC Secretary **Toku Henkins**, Grossmont College student **Jared Wilson** and graduate **Sean Bentz** expressed support for a smoke-free campus. Middle College student **Jesse Robles** urged board members to retain designated smoking areas.

### District Technology Report

Interim Senior Director of Information Services **Henry Eimstad** updated board members on the District's instructional and administrative technology, and infrastructure.

**Eimstad** highlighted installation of technology in new buildings on both campuses, upgrading to the Blackboard Learning System in Spring 2008, and plans to integrate the new student system

with current systems. Wireless access has been expanded at both campuses.

Future projects include implementation of a new computer-aided dispatch system for Public Safety, enhanced security systems and evaluating a disaster recovery location. **Eimstad** discussed help desk procedures and also some ASGC issues.

### Accountability Reporting

**Bob Hertel**, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor-Districtwide Academic, Student, Planning and Research Services, presented the District's 2007 Accountability Report as required by state law. The goal is to quantify performance within the California community college system. **Hertel** cautioned board members that the initial report is a pilot and will prepare the state for the first definitive statewide report in 2008. Colleges are clustered into peer groups with similar demographics, allowing them to compare their performance.

"This report paves the way for an annual report that provides a cost-effective structure for local decision making," concluded **Hertel**.

### From Closed Session

The Governing Board voted 4-0 (**Caruthers** absent) to approve Friday, December 21, 2007, as "School Employees Recognition Day."

#### Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College Governing Board Members:

Rick Alexander, Greg Barr, Timothy L. Caruthers, D.C., Bill Garrett, Deanna Weeks

STUDENT MEMBERS: Crystal Bernier-Sudano, Audrey Causton

Chancellor: Omero Suarez, Ph.D. • Grossmont President: Sunita V. Cooke, Ph.D. • Cuyamaca President: Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.

## Reports to the Board

Outgoing Board President **Rick Alexander** highlighted the accomplishments of the past year, including the hiring of **Dr. Sunita Cooke** as Grossmont College President, hiring 54 new faculty, completing and opening four new buildings, and decisions on the Grossmont parking structure and the Cuyamaca environmental impact report. He praised the string of clean audits and enrollment increases. "We're moving forward and it has been a team effort. Everybody should be proud," said **Alexander**.

Grossmont College Student Trustee **Crystal Bernier-Sudano** thanked Associate Vice Chancellor **Hertel** for providing a leadership retreat for ASGC. **Bernier-Sudano** made a request to place an item on the January 2008 docket regarding the Strata Information Group.

Trustee **Greg Barr** cautioned that while negotiations are going on, the board is not able to discuss details in public sessions.

Cuyamaca College Student Trustee **Audrey Causton** expressed support for the instructors who spoke during public presentations. She reported on numerous college activities including the Native American College Hour.

Trustee **Rick Alexander** made a request for board consideration of an independent audit committee. Staff recommendations were requested for future board consideration.

Vice Chancellor-Human Resources and Administrative Services **Ben Lastimado** provided new data on California community college district salaries and benefits in response to data provided at last month's board meeting by United Faculty.

**Jan Recktenwald**, CSEA President, thanked the board for approving CSEA Recognition Day. CSEA has passed a resolution in support of the Community College Initiative (Proposition 92).

**Zoe Close**, United Faculty President, expressed admiration for faculty who spoke during public comment. She distributed new comparative salary and benefit figures to board members. A discussion ensued about competing data. Trustee **Garrett** suggested that when data is gathered, both **Close** and Vice

Chancellor **Lastimado** do so together to insure accuracy. **Close** and **Lastimado** agreed.

**Brad Tiffany**, Administrators' Association, reported that mediation was unsuccessful and that the process would move to fact finding.

Cuyamaca College Academic Senate President **Jan Ford** said the Basic Skills Committee is making progress and that faculty is focusing on developing student learning outcomes.

Grossmont College Academic Senate President **Chris Hill** reported the focus will be on student learning outcomes during the January flex week. She said the basic skills committee is working steadily toward fulfilling the initiative's requirements.

Chancellor **Suarez** said the District is trying in an earnest fashion to negotiate fairly with faculty. "I assure you that these five elected board members are concerned about getting an agreement, but we must maintain fiscal stability in the district. Please try to understand these dynamics. We are in the middle of a dynamic process. I am hopeful that we will move this along," he concluded.



### Grossmont College Report

- President **Sunita V. Cooke** reported progress finding alternative parking while the parking structure project is underway, including a possible shuttle location at Gillespie Field.
- Twenty-eight international health care workers graduated from the Welcome Back program, and 31 nurses graduated in pinning ceremonies.
- **Dr. Cooke** announced that Nursing Instructor **Sharon Sullivan** was featured in *Nurseweek* magazine in an article about her mentoring program for adjunct faculty.



### Cuyamaca College Update

- President **Geraldine Perri** shared good early enrollment numbers for Spring 2008.
- Members of a local Boy Scout troop built flower beds for the Child Development Center as part of an Eagle

Scout project.

- **Dr. Perri** announced the Water Conversation Garden has received a 2007 "Intelligent Use of Water" Award from the RainBird Corporation, which comes with a \$10,000 prize.

## Staff Notes

Welcome to new classified employee **Yvette Macy**, Clerical Assistant, Payroll, District.

Welcome to new academic employees **Guillermo Colls**, ESL Instructor, Cuyamaca College; **Jose Lopez**, Sociology Instructor, Cuyamaca College; **Tina Pitt**, Vice President, Academic Affairs, Grossmont College; and **Danene Soares**, Dean of Instruction, Cuyamaca College.

Congratulations to **Barbara Takahashi**, Administrative Assistant, President's Office, Cuyamaca College; **Sang Bai**, Instructional Computing Facilities Supervisor, Grossmont College; and **Connie Elder**, Dean, Learning & Technology Resources, Cuyamaca College, on their new assignments.

## Next Meeting

The Governing Board's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, January 22, 2008, at the Student Center, Cuyamaca College. The open session will begin at 6:30 p.m., following closed session, scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

## Public Comment

Seven faculty members spoke to the Governing Board about negotiations: **Terrie Nichols**, Mathematics Instructor, Cuyamaca College; **Evan Enowitz**, Business Instructor, Grossmont College; **Jenny Vanden Eynden**, Mathematics Instructor, Grossmont College; **David Milroy**, French Instructor, Grossmont College; **Jim Custeau**, Automotive Technology Instructor, Cuyamaca College; **Dr. Lyn Neylon**, Communication Arts Instructor, Cuyamaca College; and **Patricia Santana**, Spanish Instructor, Cuyamaca College.

**Rick Walker**, Grossmont College student, asked about several reports and commented on the board's performance.

# Happy Holidays Everyone!